

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 SAN SA 05612 061851Z  
ACTION SY-05

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 A-01 MMO-01 SS-15 /033 W  
-----069239 070328Z /41

R 061806Z DEC 77  
FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6260

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 5612

FOR A/SY/EX VERNE ST. MARS FROM AMBASSADOR DEVINE

E.O. 11652: GDS  
TAGS: ASEC, APER, ES  
SUBJECT: SECURITY DETAIL IN SAN SALVADOR

REF: STATE 288282

1. SY ATTENTION TO THREAT DATA EXISTING AT THIS POST IS GREATLY APPRECIATED. AS OF DECEMBER 5 LATEST INFO AVAILABLE TO US CONFIRMS THAT KIDNAPPING THREAT TARGETTED AGAINST AMBASSADOR CONTINUES IN BEING AND HAS MOVED FORWARD SLIGHTLY SINCE LAST ASSESSMENT TWO WEEKS AGO. THREAT DATA APPEAR TO BE STILL IN PLANNING STAGE WITH NO DEFINITE TIMETABLE ESTABLISHED BUT WITH TERRORIST SURVEILLANCE OF PERTINENT SITES WELL UNDERWAY.

2. HOST GOVERNMENT RESPONSIBILITY IS, OF COURSE, RECOGNIZED BY US AND BY IT, BUT ITS AVAILABLE CAPABILITIES ARE NOT SUCH AS TO INSPIRE CONFIDENCE OR TO ENCOURAGE RELIANCE THEREON. ADDITIONAL COMPLICATING FACTOR IS MIX OF THREAT DATA WHICH AT LEAST RAISES SERIOUS QUESTION AS TO FEASIBILITY OF DEPENDING UPON GOVERNMENT SECURITY SERVICES SOME MEMBERS OF WHICH COULD BE INVOLVED AS ADVERSE PARTIES.

3. PARA 2 REFTTEL RAISES HIGHLY PERTINENT POINT WHICH  
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WE WILL ATTEMPT TO HANDLE IN BEST POSSIBLE MANNER. PRESENCE OF SY SECURITY DETAIL HAS BEEN CONSPICUOUS TO DATE--DETERRENT IMPACT OF WHICH MAY HAVE BEEN HIGHLY POSITIVE FACTOR--BUT HAS ELICITED NO PROTEST OR CRITICISM FROM GOES. AS MATTER OF FACT HOST GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS SEEM TO RECOGNIZE THEIR OWN LIMITATIONS, AND ACCEPT US SECURITY AGENTS AS MATTER OF FACT AND

BEST PROCEDURE. DETAIL MEMBERS HAVE BEEN PROVIDED WEAPONS PERMITS AND ID CARDS BY CHIEF OF STAFF ARMED FORCES AND DIRECTOR GENERAL OF NATIONAL GUARD. THIS ENCOURAGES US TO THINK THAT ASSURANCES OF IMMUNITY MAY BE OBTAINABLE NOTWITHSTANDING LACK OF ACCREDITATION, AND WE SHALL SEEK SAME INITIALLY THROUGH INFORMAL CHANNELS BUT THEN, IF NECESSARY, THROUGH FORMAL DIPLOMATIC APPROACH.

4. I STRONGLY CONCUR IN ESTABLISHMENT OF SECOND RSO POSITION AND CONSIDER SA CHIOCCO UNIQUELY QUALIFIED TO FILL THAT POSITION. TDY SY OFFICER WILL BE WELCOME DURING SUCH PERIOD AS CHIOCCO MAY HAVE TO BE IN US TO SETTLE PERSONAL AFFAIRS.

DEVINE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** n/a  
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**Decaption Date:** 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Reference:** 77 STATE 288282  
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**SAS ID:** 343220  
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**Subject:** SECURITY DETAIL IN SAN SALVADOR  
**TAGS:** ASEC, APER, ES  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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